

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 12391 231120Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 INRE-00
SSO-00 L-03 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03
INR-10 NEA-11 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 ICAE-00 /103 W
-----027920 231125Z /23

O 231116Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7461
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USEEC

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN
PARIS ALSO FOR OECD
PASS ELECTRONICALLY STR FOR HEIMLICH

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: EEC, ETRD
SUBJECT: DRAFT RESOLUTION ON A MULTILATERAL STEEL
COMMITTEE

1. EC COMMISSION DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS, LOEFF, HAS INFORMED CHARGE THAT A JUNE 21 MEETING
WITH THE MEMBER STATES PRODUCED SERIOUS DISAGREEMENTS
OVER THE DRAFT RESOLUTION.

2. THE MOST SERIOUS AND CONSISTENT OBJECTIONS WERE
RAISED BY THE FRG, WHICH QUESTIONED THE NEED FOR THE
COMMITTEE AND OPINED THAT IN ANY CASE IT WOULD DO NO
MORE THAN THE CURRENT AD HOC GROUP.

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3. SPECIFIC PROBLEMS SHARED BY MANY OF THE MEMBER STATES
INCLUDED THE DURATION OF THE COMMITTEE (SOME MEMBER STATES
WANT A PROVISION FOR REVIEW AFTER SIX YEARS) AND THE
ADMISSION OF NON-OECD MEMBERS (THE FRENCH AND FRG REPS
WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRECEDENT THIS WOULD CREATE).
MISSION OFFICER LEARNED IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION THAT

LOEFF ARGUED FOR THE NEED TO RECOGNIZE US DOMESTIC PRESENTATIONAL PROBLEMS ON THE DURATION ISSUE. LOEFF IS CONFIDENT THAT HE CAN PERSUADE THE MEMBER STATES ON THIS AND THAT AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULA CAN BE FOUND TO INCLUDE SELECTED LDC'S BY INVITATION DRAWING ON PRECEDENTS ALREADY SET BY THE OECD SECRETARIAT.

4. THE UK REPS (TOGETHER WITH THE FRENCH TO SOME EXTENT) WERE CONCERNED THAT SOME OF THE POINTS IN THE RESOLUTION MIGHT PREJUDGE THEIR POSITION IN MTN (PRESUMABLY ON SELECTIVE SAFEGUARDS). THE UK FELT THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE A REQUIREMENT TO REPORT ALL ACTIONS TO THE STEEL COMMITTEE (SINCE THIS ISSUE IS UNDER DISCUSSION IN CONNECTION WITH SELECTIVE SAFEGUARD RULES) AND MAINTAINED THAT THE RESOLUTION AS DRAFTED CHANGED ARTICLE XIX BY RESTRAINING MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FROM USING THEIR RIGHT TO RETALIATE (PARA 8 OF INITIAL COMMITMENTS).

5. ALL MEMBER STATES OBJECTED TO THE PARAGRAPHS ON EXPORT CREDITS AND ON EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON STEEL-MAKING PRODUCTS (E.G., SCRAP), AND LOEFF SAID THE COMMISSION WOULD HAVE TO DROP BOTH THESE PARAGRAPHS FROM THE DRAFT.

6. THE UK IS ALSO MAINTAINING ITS BASIC OPPOSITION TO THE NEW COMMITTEE UNTIL CURRENT STEEL ANTI-DUMPING CASES ARE RESOLVED OR WITHDRAWN. HOWEVER IT HAS GIVEN A GO-AHEAD TO THE COMMISSION TO CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE TEXT.

7. THE UK AND OTHER MEMBER STATES SUPPORTED THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMISSION'S POSITION THAT THE BRACKETS ON PARAGRAPH (4) OF THE INITIAL COMMITMENTS SECTION SHOULD BE REMOVED.

8. COMMISSION OFFICIALS SAID THEY WOULD TRY TO RESOLVE SOME OF THE DIFFERENCES NEXT WEEK WITH COREPER.

HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: ETRD, EEC
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